in and prove title. The judge conducts a hearing and speedily adjudicates titles.

The trouble is that the Government does not have the resources available to survey and approve land titles for the entire archipelago. At the rate the Government is proceeding, centuries will be needed to finish the job. Still, as far as the work has progressed, despite occasional complaints, it has proved of inestimable private and public value.

A GALAXY OF FILIPINO JURISTS: ARELLANO, TORRES, MAPA, ARAULLO, VILLAMOR, AND AVANCENA [9]

Many Filipinos have displayed unusual aptitude for the legal profession. In Spanish times it was about the only career open to ambitious young men, and in American times the lure of politics has been the magnet that has drawn the scions of the leading families to the law. Six representatives of the best in Philippine culture who had particularly notable careers on the Supreme Bench were Cayetano S. Arellano, first Chief Justice under the American administration 5 Florentine Torres, senior Associate Justice j Victorino Mapa, second Chief Justice5 Manuel Araullo, third Chief Justice; Ignacio Villamor, Associate Justice, and Ramon Avancena, present Chief Justice.

I was fortunate in being a member of the Supreme Court during a period when I could become intimately acquainted with all the Filipinos who have served on the Court. Arellano, Torres, and Mapa, the original triumvirate of Filipino mentality, were still there when I took my oath

of office* Not long after, another triumvirate of equal rank, consisting of

[9] See the memorial addresses delivered on the occasion of the deaths of Mr. Chief Justice Cayetano S. Arellano, Mr. Chief Justice Manuel Araullo, Mr. Chief Justice Victorino Mapa, Mr. Justice Florentine Torres, and Mr. Justice Ignacio Villamor, which evidence the universal esteem in which they were held, found in Vol. 41 Phil. Rep. (Arellano) j 46 PhiL Rep. (Araullo) 5 49 Phil. Itep. (Mapa and Torres), and 56 Phil. Rep. (Villamor).